

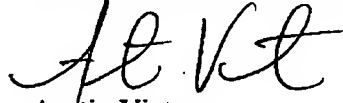
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is submitted under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.312 in response to the Notice of Allowance dated November 12, 2004. By the present Amendment, Applicant amended Claims 4, 12 and 13. Claims 4 and 12 were amended to define the projection of the probe as rounded. Support for this limitation is provided on page 6 of the specification, at lines 24-28. Claim 13 was amended to remove informalities. Specifically, Claim 13 was amended to correct the spelling of the word "slideably" and to provide the word "and" between subsequent steps of the method of testing stiffness in wood products.

Applicant asserts that the claims as amended are in allowable form and respectfully requests that this case be passed to issue. Notice to that effect is requested. If, however, any issue remains after consideration of this Amendment, Applicant urges the Examiner to telephone Attorney for Applicant, Austin Victor, to expedite the same.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY



Austin Victor

Registration No. 47,154

Direct Dial No. 253-924-3839

Enclosed:

Facsimile Transmittal Sheet

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